

THE AUSTRALIAN SPECIES OF ANTIRHEA, AND A NEW  
NAME FOR A CUBAN SPECIES

C. T. WHITE

*With one plate*

THE GENUS *Antirhea* Commerson ex Jussieu was established in 1789 on the basis of a Mauritius tree, there known as "Bois de Losteau". Since that time many species have been described from widely different places in the tropics and subtropics of both hemispheres, including three from Australia. A search through Index Kewensis and its supplements showed that two of these had not been listed and the third one by error was wrongly entered as to the spelling of the specific epithet. A query from Dr. Lily M. Perry prompted me to look up the Australian species (all of which are confined to Queensland), when the above omissions were noted.

The three species, with correct citations, synonyms, and distribution, are here listed:

*Antirhea tenuiflora* F. Muell. ex Benth. in Fl. Austr. 3: 418. 1867 (as *Antirrhæa*); F. Muell. Fragm. Phytogr. Austr. 7: 48. 1869 (as *Antirrhoea*); non Urban (1900).  
*Guettarda tenuiflora* F. Muell. Fragm. Phytogr. Austr. 9: 183. 1875, First Census 75. 1882.

*Antirrhoea tenuifolia* Jackson, Ind. Kew. 1: 155. 1893, sphalm.

QUEENSLAND: From the Johnstone River to Cape York.

By a curious slip this species was listed in the Index Kewensis as *A. tenuifolia*, a mistake repeated in certain other publications. Perhaps this erroneous entry accounts for Urban giving the preëmpted specific epithet *tenuiflora* to a West Indian species. For the latter a name change becomes necessary, and the following is proposed:

*Antirhea Urbaniana* nom. nov.

*Antirrhoea tenuiflora* Urban, Symb. Antill. 1: 438. 1900; non F. Mueller (1867).  
CUBA.

*Antirhea putaminosa* (F. Muell.) F. M. Bailey, Queensl. Fl. 3: 760. 1900 (as *Antirrhæa*).

*Timonius putaminosus* F. Muell. Fragm. Phytogr. Austr. 4: 92. 1864.

*Bobeia putaminosa* F. Muell. loc. cit. in syn. and op. cit. 5: 212. 1866.

*Guettardella putaminosa* Benth. Fl. Austr. 3: 419. 1867.

*Guettarda putaminosa* F. Muell. op. cit. 9: 183. 1875.

*Antirrhoea putaminosa* F. Muell. op. cit. 9: 183. 1875, in syn.

QUEENSLAND: Central coastal region; in "dry rain forest" a few miles north and south of Rockhampton, i. e. the tropic of Capricorn.

Mueller, in the original publication of *Guettarda putaminosa*, credits the binomial *Antirrhoea putaminosa* to "J. Hook. in B[enth]. & H[ook]. Gen. Pl. ii. 100," and F. M. Bailey cites the joint authors also as the

authority. Very few actual combinations were made in the *Genera Plantarum*, but none in this instance. Bentham & Hooker did not mention the species; however, some earlier Australian authors have translated Bentham & Hooker's inference in many cases as proposed new names.

This species is a small tree common in a rather dry type of mixed forest characteristic of coastal and mid-inland Queensland and in the more inland places merging into "Brigalow" (*Acacia*) and "Beelah" (*Casuarina*) forest ("scrub"). However, this type of vegetation has been designated by some as monsoon forest, because some of the larger soft-wooded trees such as *Gyrocarpus* and *Brachychiton* lose their leaves in the dry period, although these genera are not always present. "Box wood scrub" is a name sometimes given to this forest, for the majority of the trees are of slow growth and possess a box-like (*Buxus*) wood. Vegetative parts generally show a tendency toward xerophytism.

*Antirhea myrtooides* (F. Muell.) F. M. Bailey, Queensl. Fl. 3: 760. 1900 (as *Antirrhoea*). Pl. I.

*Guttarda myrtooides* F. Muell. Fragm. Phytogr. Austr. 9: 184. 1875.

*Bobea myrtooides* (F. Muell.) Valeton in Bull. Dep. Agric. Ind. Néerl. 26: 7. 1909.

QUEENSLAND: Rockingham Bay (known only from the type-collection).

Valeton, in his introductory remarks on the genus *Timonius*, said that *Guttarda myrtooides* F. Muell. was a true *Bobea* and actually made the combination in his discussion of the species. Alston, Hand-book Fl. Ceyl. 6, Suppl.: 151. 1931, suggested that "though *Nelitris* Gaertn. is one of the 'nomina rejicienda' of the International Rules, I think that it should be adopted in preference to *Bobea* Gaud." By the keys and descriptions in the *Genera Plantarum* I judge that this species would come under *Antirhea* Comm. ex Juss. By the key in the *Pflanzenfamilien* it would come under *Bobea* Gaud. on account of a rather deeply 2-cleft style. Unfortunately the plant is known only from the type-collection. Mr. Jessep, Government Botanist, National Herbarium, Melbourne, kindly sent me a part of the type including a single flower, one of three on the type sheet. I carefully dissected this as far as I could without destroying it and found the style to be deeply 2-cleft.

#### EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE

Part of type specimen of *Antirhea myrtooides* (F. Muell.) F. M. Bailey.

QUEENSLAND HERBARIUM,  
BOTANIC GARDENS,  
BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA.